



# Biography

## CHIEF OF STAFF SHANNON O'LOUGHLIN



Shannon O'Loughlin is a citizen of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and serves as the Chief of Staff at the National Indian Gaming Commission. As such, O'Loughlin manages the day-to-day operations of the Commission, including the compliance, finance, public affairs and technology divisions. In addition, she is charged with implementing the Commission's directives relating to government-to-government consultation, training and technical assistance and enforcement efforts.

O'Loughlin joined the NIGC in May 2015. Prior to joining the federal government, O'Loughlin was in the private sector, heading-up and managing a large national firm's Indian law practice group out of the firm's Washington office. O'Loughlin brings more than 16 years of Indian Country legal and policy work to the Commission. While serving as a private practice attorney, she provided legal expertise in the fields of federal Indian law, Indian Nations internal law, and indigenous peoples international law and policy to strengthen, maintain and protect Indian nation sovereignty, self-determination and culture.

O'Loughlin brings to the Commission an understanding of the importance of maintaining strong Indian Country and stakeholder relationships. She worked on economic development projects, environmental matters and creating legal infrastructure for Indian Nations. O'Loughlin has prior experience with the Department of Interior, having been appointed by Secretary Sally Jewell to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Review Committee. She is also a member of the Indian Law Section of the Federal Bar Association, the National Native American Bar Association, Native American Bar Association of New York, the Environment, Energy and Natural Resource section of the District of Columbia Bar Association, and the Lawyers Committee for Cultural Heritage.

O'Loughlin received her bachelor's degree in American Indian Studies from California State University at Long Beach. She earned both her master's degree and Juris Doctorate in Federal Indian and Tribal Law Policy at the University of Arizona in Tucson, Ariz.

The [National Indian Gaming Commission](#) is committed to the prompt and efficient regulation of the Indian gaming industry spanning more than 450 gaming establishments, associated with nearly 242 tribes across 28 states. The Commission's dedication to compliance with the [Indian Gaming Regulatory Act](#) ensures the integrity of the \$28.5 billion Indian gaming industry. To learn more, visit [www.nigc.gov](http://www.nigc.gov) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).